THE TROPICAL DISTURBANCE OF AUGUST 26-31, 1934

By W. R. STEVENS

[Weather Bureau, Washington, October 1934]

Disturbed conditions were first observed in connection with this storm on the morning of August 26, when two vessels in the north-central Gulf of Mexico reported squalls, and the wind velocity at Port Eads, La., was 28 m. p. h. from the east. During the night of August 25, 5.50 inches of rain fell at Port Eads. By the night of the 26th there had been an increase in wind velocity and a decrease in pressure, with a movement of the disturbed condition toward the west-northwest. However, no definite center had developed at this time; but storm warnings were issued for the Texas coast between Port Arthur and Port O'Connor. By the morning of the 27th a definite center had developed and was located about 50 miles east of Galveston, the lowest reported pressure being 29.46 inches, and the highest wind velocity 70 m. p. h. (estimated). A maximum wind velocity of 30 m. p. h. from the east-northeast was recorded at Port Arthur during the night of August 26. Storm warnings were changed to hurricane warnings from Port Arthur to Galveston at 8:30 a. m. E. S. T. on August 27, and hurricane warnings were issued west of Galveston to Freeport at 2:45 p. m. Caution was also advised against possibility of dangerous gales west of Freeport to Matagorda. It was apparent at this time that the disturbance was turning more to the west or west-southwest. After the 27th, the storm moved south-southwestward, and crossed the Mexican coast a short distance north of Tampico during the night of August 31. Such a course of a tropical disturbance along the Texas coast is unprecedented.

The lowest pressure reported at any coastal station was 29.62 inches at Galveston on the 27th. Approximately the same pressure was recorded by independent observers at Freeport during the early morning of the 28th.

The highest wind velocities recorded at coastal stations during the storm were as follows: Port Arthur, 34 m. p. h.; Galveston, 42 m. p. h.; and Freeport, 50-60 m. p. h. (estimated).

The lowest pressure and highest wind velocity were reported by the steamship Simon von Utrecht on the afternoon of August 28, when the vessel was about 75 miles south-southwest of Galveston: Pressure, 29.34 inches; wind velocity, 80 m. p. h. (estimated).

There was no serious damage along the Texas coast. After receipt of the storm warnings on August 26, beaches and low sections were evacuated, and precautions taken against property damage in the danger zone indicated in the warnings. No loss of life was reported on the coast or at sea.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

C. FITZHUGH TALMAN, in Charge of Library

RECENT ADDITIONS

The following have been selected from among the titles of books recently received as representing those most likely to be useful to Weather Bureau officials in their meteorological work and studies:

Commonwealth solar observatory

Memoir. Canberra. 1934. no. 3. Measurements of atmospheric ozone made at the Commonwealth solar observatory, Mount Stromlo, Canberra, during the years 1929 to 1932, by A. J. Higgs, B. Sc. Canberra. March 1934. 29 p. figs., plates. 31 cm.

Leighly, John Barger

Marquesan meteorology. Notes on the meteorologic observations made in the Marquesas islands by the Pacific entomological survey during the years 1929–1932, by John B. Leighly, Berkeley, California, University of California press, 1933. p. 147–172 incl. illus. (map), tables, diagrs. 26 cm. (University of California publications in geography. v. 6, no. 4.)

United States. Coast & geodetic survey

Alaska magnetic tables and magnetic charts for 1930, by Daniel L. Hazard, chief magnetician, Division of terrestrial magnetism and seismology. Washington, U. S. Govt. printing office, 1934. 35 p. incl. tables. 4 fold. charts. 23 cm. (Serial no. 570.) At head of title: U. S. Department of commerce. Daniel C. Roper, secretary. Coast and geodetic survey. R. S. Patton, director . . . Lithographed.

SOLAR OBSERVATIONS

SOLAR RADIATION MEASUREMENTS DURING SEPTEMBER 1934

By IRVING F. HAND, Assistant in Solar Radiation Investigations

For a description of instruments employed and their exposures, the reader is referred to the January 1932 Review, page 26.

Table 1 shows that solar radiation intensities averaged above normal for September at all three Weather Bureau stations.

Table 2, on the other hand, shows a deficiency in the amount of total solar and sky radiation received on a

horizontal surface at all stations except Fairbanks, Alaska.

Table 3 shows lower turbidity values and less water content of the atmosphere than were recorded during the summer months.

Polarization measurements obtained on 6 days at Washington give a mean of 54 percent, with a maximum of 60 percent on the 17th. At Madison measurements made on 7 days give a mean of 57 percent with a maximum of 63 percent on the 17th. The values at Washington are close to the September normals, while those at Madison are somewhat below normal.

• Extrapolated.

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW

Table 1.—Solar radiation intensities during September 1934
[Gram-calories per minute per square centimeter of normal surface]

WASHINGTON, D. C.

						,	=								
		Sun's zenith distance													
	8a.m.	78.7°	75.7°	70.7°	60.0°	0.0°	60.0°	70.7°	75.7°	78.7°	Noon				
Date	75th		Air mass												
	mer. time		A.	м.			Р. М.			solar time					
	e	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	•1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	е				
Sept. 1	15. 65 9. 83 9. 14 9. 14 11. 38 8. 18	0.76 .76	.87	. 99 . 60 . 95	.82 1.11 1.06		1. 14	cal.	cal.	cal.	mm 9. 14 15. 65 10. 97 8. 81 9. 83 11. 81 8. 81				
			M	IADIS	on, v	vis.			-						
Sept. 5	8. 18 8. 48 6. 50 15. 11 4. 57		.89	1. 17 1. 10 1. 08 . 95	1, 30 1, 24 1, 30 1, 16 1, 32 1, 24	1. 49 1. 49 1. 59 1. 49 +. 09	1. 24				9. 14 8. 48 7. 29 7. 04 15, 65 4, 95				

Table 2.—Average daily totals of solar radiation (direct+diffuse) received on a horizontal surface

	Gram-calories per square centimeter															
Week beginning	Wash- ington	Madison	Lincoln	Chicago	New York	Fresno	Pitts- burgh	Fair- banks	Twin Falls	La Jolla	Miami	New Orleans	River- side	Blue Hill	Mount Wash- ington	Friday Harbor
1934 Sept. 3	cal. 314 228 392 315	cal. 317 278 278 288	cal. 488 443 374 304	cal.	cal. 255 229 258 251	cal. 601 580 451 544	cal. 406 265 280 201	cal. 203 331 243 193	cal. 523 525 396 396	cal. 478 463 463 517	cal. 461 286 331 418	cal. 437 237 367 276	cal. 492 440 364 480	cal. 312 284 191 282	cal. 356 376 300 283	cal. 331
		Departures from weekly normals														
Sept. 3	-69 -34 +33 -35	-59 -61 -63 -3	+26 +2 -39 -71	-4 +31	58 76 41 25	+50 +53 -39 +84	+48 -67 -35 -89	-64 +48 +90 +73	-3 +19 -82 -58		+11 -160 -119 -26	+53 -119 +23 -73				
		Accumulated departures on Sept. 30														
	+1,694	-3, 465	+5, 803		+12,791	+8,981	-2, 499	+133	+4823		-7, 084	+7,035	<u>-</u>			

Table 2-a.—Late reports from Mount Washington. Lightning and wind have destroyed 2 pyrheliometers this year
[Average daily totals of solar radiation (direct+diffuse) received on a horizontal surface at Mount Washington, N. H.]

Week beginning—		Week beginning—		Week beginning—	
1934 Apr. 30 May 7 May 14 May 21	cal. 515 512 641 478	June 4 June 11	cal. 679 645 359 485	June 25	Cal. 452 527 407

Table 1.—Solar radiation intensities during September 1934—Con. LINCOLN, NEBR.

		Sun's zenith distance										
	8a.m.	78.7°	75.7°	70.7°	60.0°	0.0°	60.0°	70.7°	75.7°	78.7°	Noon	
Date	75th mer.		Air mass									
	time	A.M.						Ρ.	М.		solar time	
	е.	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	*1.9	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	e.	
Sept. 4	mm 7.87		cal 0.98	cal 1. 12		cal 1.46		cal	cal	cal	mm 8.18	
Sept. 6 Sept. 7 Sept. 8	6. 50	. 82		1. 02 1. 12		1. 51 1. 51 1. 52	1.31	1. 06 1. 17	0. 99 1. 03			
Sept. 11 Sept. 12 Sept. 15	10. 97 18. 59	. 85		1.05	1. 13	1. 43 1. 30 1. 55	1. 17 1. 10	. 96 . 95	. 77 . 82	. 62 . 70		
Sept. 17 Sept. 18 Sept. 19	7. 29 7. 57	. 65 . 84 . 67	. 75	. 93 1. 08 . 93	1. 26	1. 43 1. 32	1. 19	1. 02	. 86	. 76	11.38	
Sept. 21 Sept. 22 Sept. 27	5. 16 7. 04		.84	. 97 . 97 1. 13	1. 23 1. 16	1. 47 1. 34 1. 56	1. 29	1.10				
Sept. 28 Means Departures	8. 18		. 93	1. 05	1, 25	1. 45 +. 04	1. 11 1. 22	1.00 1.04 +.06	. 84 . 89	. 76	12. 24	
3 Opar varcous	1	1.00	'		ILL, N		<u> </u>	1100	1100	1.00		
Sept. 1 Sept. 11					1. 07 1. 09	1. 27 1. 38	1.15	0.94			7. 4 11. 1	
Sept. 13 Sept. 20 Sept. 25	12. 8 13. 2		1. 14		1. 31 1. 23	1. 42 1. 43	1.12	. 98	 		7. 6 12. 3 13. 7	
Sept. 26 Sept. 28 Means	7.9		1, 05 (1, 10)	1. 05 1. 19 1. 15	1. 33	1, 41	1.18	. 97	0.84		16. 1 7. 9	

Table 3.—Total, I_m , and screened, I_v , I_r , solar radiation intensity measurements, obtained during September 1934, and determinations of the atmospheric turbidity factor, β , and water-vapor content, w=depth in millimeters, if precipitated

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Date and hour angle	Solar	Air mass	I m	I,	I,	Rr.	A.	β _{mean}	I _{w=0} 1.94	I _{w=o} -I _m 1.94	w	Air-mass type
Date and nom angle	altitude	All mass	1 m	7 7		β _{Γ**-} -	β _{Ι μ-} ,	Pmean		Percentage of solar constant		An-mass type
Sept. 17, 1984 4:43 a	0 / 16 26 17 54 18 40 19 14 21 20 22 05 22 25 23 20 31 10 31 10 38 54 39 42 47 14 47 42	m 3.51 3.23 3.10 3.00 2.74 2.64 2.57 2.52 1.93 1.90 1.56 1.36	gr. cal. 0.897 923 953 971 1.037 1.029 1.065 1.192 1.204 1.274 1.283 1.323 1.323	gr. cal. 0.725 .726 .728 .725 .764 .765 .777 .778 .885 .886 .914 .948	gr. cal. 0.586 .587 .589 .590 .615 .616 .633 .702 .704 .729 .730 .749	0. 075 . 073 . 068 . 057 . 052 . 064 . 067 . 069 . 069 . 063 . 067 . 068	0. 055 . 067 . 070 . 065 . 068 . 071 . 079 . 079 . 056 . 059 . 059 . 048	0. 065 . 070 . 069 . 061 . 060 . 068 . 072 . 069 . 062 . 064 . 063 . 058	57. 5 58. 4 60. 8 63. 3 65. 0 64. 8 65. 8 72. 8 72. 8 72. 6 75. 0	46. 4 47. 6 49. 1 50. 1 53. 5 53. 0 55. 6 55. 5 61. 4 62. 1 63. 1 68. 2	mm 7 7 11 12 12 4 5 13 9 3 2 3 4	Po
Sept. 18, 1984 4:46 a	15 36 16 32 18 01 19 57 21 50 22 45	3. 68 3. 49 3. 21 2. 92 2. 66 2. 58	. 928 . 938 . 993 1. 000 1. 032 1. 056	. 721 . 721 . 745 . 745 . 786 . 787	. 591 . 592 . 596 . 596 . 637 . 638	. 058 . 059 . 045 . 052 . 073 . 066	. 062 . 069 . 055 . 060 . 073 . 074	. 062 . 084 . 050 . 056 . 073 . 070	57. 0 58. 7 63. 5 64. 0 63. 2 64. 8	48. 4 48. 7 51. 7 51. 2 51. 5 54. 9	3 5 10 17 14 7	P _o
Sept. 20, 1934 3:08 a	32 54 33 44	1.84 1.80	. 845 . 846	. 662 . 662	. 548 . 548	. 200 . 200	.096	. 148	59. 2 59. 0	44. 0 44. 1	50 48	Nec
Sept. 28, 1984 4:29 a	16 15 17 10 21 12 22 05 29 36 30 27 36 52 37 47 48 43 48 52	3. 55 3. 36 2. 75 2. 64 2. 02 1. 97 1. 67 1. 63 1. 32 1. 32	. 880 . 903 1. 020 1. 032 1. 107 1. 096 1. 158 1. 140 1. 138 1. 138	.717 .718 .781 .783 .842 .842 .837 .837 .822 .822	. 578 . 581 . 620 . 621 . 669 . 669 . 669 . 646	. 079 . 076 . 068 . 065 . 088 . 099 . 088 . 106 . 124 . 124	. 055 . 058 . 054 . 058 . 062 . 065 . 100 . 102 . 110	. 067 . 067 . 061 . 062 . 075 . 082 . 092 . 104 . 117 . 117	60. 1 59. 5 65. 0 65. 8 68. 6 68. 0 69. 3 68. 3 71. 7	45. 5 46. 5 52. 6 53. 2 57. 7 56. 5 59. 7 58. 8 58. 6 58. 7	28 18 16 12 10 15 7 8 34 33	Po

Atmospheric conditions during turbidity measurements

- Sept. 17: Temperature, 15° C.; wind, NW. 15; visibility, 30 miles; polarization, 60 percent; blueness of sky, 6. Sept. 18: Temperature, 14° C.; wind, NW. 13; visibility, 20 miles; polarization, 50 percent; blueness of sky, 5. Sept. 20: Temperature, 14° C.; wind, SE. 10; visibility, 20 miles; polarization, 54 percent; blueness of sky, 5. Sept. 28: Temperature, 15° C.; wind, E. 12; visibility, 30 miles; polarization, 54 percent; blueness of sky, 5.

Table 3.—Total, I_m , and screened, I_v , I_r , solar radiation intensity measurements, obtained during September 1934, and determinations of the atmospheric turbidity factor β and water-vapor content, w=depth in millimeters, if precipitated

BLUE HILL OBSERVATORY OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Date and hour angle	Solar al- titude	Air mass	I_m	I_y	I,	$\beta_{I_{m-r}}$	β _{Ι ",}	β шевп	1.94 Percentag	I.94 1.94 ge of solar tant	w	Air-mass type
Sept. 1, 1934 3:49 a. m 2:55 a. m 4:04 p. m	29 10 38 50 26 56	m 2. 04 1. 59 2. 26	gr. cal. 1.065 1.158 .999	gr. cal. 0.796 .835 .754	gr. cal. 0.645 .663 .614	0.116 .091 .098	0. 086 . 077 . 090	0. 101 . 084 . 094	63. 8 72. 3 62. 8	7. 9 14. 1 10. 4	mm 3.0 43.0 7.9	Pc Nrc Tm aloft.
Sept. 11, 1934 1:52 a. m	44 56 50 31 35 13	1. 41 1. 29 1. 73	1, 351 1, 279 1, 263	. 938 . 888 . 883	. 750 . 703 . 690	. 049 . 074 . 037	. 062 . 081 . 028	. 056 . 078 . 032	78. 0 77. 0 80. 5	7. 4 11. 0 14. 5	3. 1 17. 8 56. 0	N _{FG} P _A , T _M aloft.
Sept. 13, 1934 3:00 p. m	34 34 21 21	1.76 2.74	1. 295 . 983	. 885 . 743	. 690 . 592	. 021 . 060	. 033 . 055	. 027 . 058	80. 0 63. 5	12. 6 14. 0	25. 0 27. 1	P _A T _≡ aloft.
Sept. 25, 1934 1:42 a. m. 1:17 p. m. 4:18 p. m.	40 46 43 39 17 39	1. 53 1. 45 3. 28	1, 328 1, 278 , 889	. 876 . 874 . 666	. 679 . 662 . 536	. 022 . 033 . 060	. 042 . 017 . 074	. 032 . 025 . 067	82. 0 84. 0 59. 5	13, 2 18, 3 13, 4	35. 0 60. + 17. 4	
Sept. 26, 1934 3:58 a. m	46 33 34 08	2. 75 1. 38 1. 78 1. 88 2. 57	1. 074 1. 351 1. 229 1. 176 . 964	. 756 . 907 . 832 . 799 . 723	. 603 . 706 . 649 . 639 . 603	. 033 . 027 . 033 . 042 . 096	. 047 . 026 . 051 . 041 . 103	. 040 . 026 . 042 . 042 . 100	71. 1 84. 9 77. 8 77. 1 58. 5	15.7 14.9 14.1 16.2 8.6	51. 0 86. 0 44. 6 60. + 3. 2	Nrc Tm aloft. Nrc Tm aloft.
Sept. 28, 1934 3:51 a. m 1:51 a. m 2:19 p. m 4:20 p. m	21 52 39 14 35 53 13 20	2. 66 1. 58 1. 70 4. 28	1. 220 1. 399 1. 245 . 905	. 852 . 972 . 878 . 709	. 716 . 719 . 713 . 590	. 030 . 032 . 066 . 055	. 047 . 090 . 050	. 030 . 040 . 078 . 052	73. 6 80. 0 71. 9 57. 4	10. 5 7. 7 7. 5 10. 6	6. 9 3. 6 2. 9 4. 5	N _{FO}

Atmospheric conditions during solar radiation measurements, Blue Hill Observatory of Harvard University

Date and time from apparent noon	Air tem- pera- ture	Wind (Beaufort scale)	Visibility; scale, 0-10	Sky blue- ness	Cloudiness and remarks
September 1934 1; 2:54 a. m 1; 3:40 p. m	°C. 17.8 17.7	SE 3 ESE 4	9, se, 5 sw 8-9	4 6	Few Cu, 1 Ci. 4 Ci.
11; 1:57 a. m. 11; 1:58 a. m. 13; 3:01 p. m. 13; 4:19 p. m. 25; 1:56 a. m. 25; 0:56 p. m.	19. 4 20. 6 15. 4 14. 9 19. 3 21. 0	NW 3 NE 4 ENE 3	8	4 5 8 7 6	4 Acu, 1 Cu. Few Acu, 6 Cu. 5 Ci, few Acu, few Stcu. 5 Ci, 3 Cu, few Stcu. Few Ci, few Stcu, 1 Cu. Few Ci, few Cu. (Cl'ds interrupted radiation meas'ts.)
25; 4:00 p. m _ 26; 4:04 a. m _ 26; 2:37 p. m _ 26; 4:14 p. m _ 26; 0:22 a. m _ 28; 4:00 a. m _	19. 8 18. 3 26. 1 25. 0 23. 9 12, 2	8 2 8 2 8xW 3 8 2		7 8 6 6 6	Few Ci, few Cu. Clear, with fog on horizon. Few Cu. Few Ci, few Cu. Few Cu. Few Cist, lt. hz, Smk over Bos-
28; 2:00 a. m. 28; 2:09 p. m. 28; 4:12 p. m.	13. 9 18. 3 19. 4	WNW 2 WSW 2 WSW 2	8sw,7e 7	6–7 6 5	ton. Smk to 5° over Boston. Few Acu, sse horizon. 1 Acu & Cu, west horizon.

POSITIONS AND AREAS OF SUN SPOTS

[Communicated by Capt. J. F. Hellweg, U. S. Navy, Superintendent U. S. Naval Observatory. Data furnished by the U. S. Naval Observatory in cooperation with Harvard and Mount Wilson Observatories. The difference in longitude is measured from the central meridian, positive west. The north latitude is positive. Areas are corrected for foreshortening and are expressed in millionths of the sun's visible hemisphere. The total area for each day includes spots and groups]

	Eas	tern		eliograph	ie	A	rea	Total	
Date	sta	nd- rd me	Diff. in longi- tude	Longi- tude	Lati- tude	Spot	Group	area for each day	Observatory
1934									
	(h	m	۰	1 1	•				
Sept. 1	11	22		No spots					U. S. Naval.
Sept. 2	10	34		No spots					Do.
Sept. 3	11	0		No spots			[Mount Wilson.
Sept. 4		18		No spots					U. S. Naval.
Sept. 5	13	29		No spots					Do.
Sept. 6	::-			No spots				-	Harvard.
Sept. 7		.0		No spots					Mount Wilson. Do.
Sept. 8	9	30		No spots					Harvard.
Sept. 9				No spots				-	
Sept. 10	13	.8		No spots					U. S. Naval. Do.
Sept. 11	13	11 40	-1.0	No spots	-30.0		9	9	Mount Wilson.
Sept. 12	11	20		No spots			l a	y	Harvard
Sept. 13	11	45	+25.0	173.4 I	-30.0		27		Mount Wilson,
Sept. 14	111	40	+20.0 +50.0	198.4	+7.0		4/8	35	MIDGIL WISOII.
Sept. 15	12	18	+62.0	196. 9	∓7.0	46	ľ	46	U. S. Naval.
Sept. 16	12	25	+77.0	198.6	±7.0 ±7.0	10	115	115	Mount Wilson.
Sept. 17	11	14		No spots			110	110	U. S. Naval.

POSITIONS AND AREAS OF SUN SPOTS—Continued

	Easte	rn	Н	eliograph	ic	Aı	rea.	Total	
Date	stan atd tim	īΙ	Diff. in longi- tude	Longi- tude	Lati- tude	Spot	Greup	area for each day	Observatory
1934	h :	m	•	-	•				
Sept. 18		26		No spots					U. S. Naval.
Sept. 19		30		No spots					Do.
Sept. 20		16		No spots					Do.
Sept. 21		15		No spots					Mount Wilson.
Sept. 22		18		No spots					U. S. Naval.
Sept. 23		37		No spots					Do.
Sept. 24		11 29		No spots					Do.
Sept. 25 Sept. 26		အ 8		No spots No spots					Do. Do.
Sept. 27		ا ۋ ا		No spots					Do.
Sept. 28		39	+7.0		+23.0	31		31	Do.
Sept. 29	13	ŏΙ	-66.0	243.8	-12. 0		6		Mount Wilson.
		٦	+7.0	316.8	-2.5		4		
		- 1	+21.0	330.8	+22.0		8		Ì
			+50.0	359.8	-29.0		6	24	l
Sept. 30	11 3	30	+34.0	331.4	+23.0]- 	62	62	U. S. Naval.
Mean daily area for 30 days								11	
ioi so days							- 	11	

PROVISIONAL SUN-SPOT RELATIVE NUMBERS FOR SEPTEMBER 1934

(Dependent alone on observations at Zurich and its station at Arosa)

[Data furnished through the courtesy of Prof. W. Brunner, Eidgen. Sternwarte, Zurich, Switzerland]

September 1934	Relative numbers	September 1934	Relative numbers	September 1934	Relative numbers
1	0 0 7 0	11 12 13 14	0 7 7 8 Wc16	21 22 23 24 25	0 0 7 0
6 7	0 0 0 0	16 17 18 19 20	9 8 0 0	26 27 28 29 30	0 0 9 14 21

Mean: 29 days=3.9.

c=New formation of a center of activity: E, on the eastern part of the sun's disk; W, on the western part; M, in the central circle zone.

AEROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

[Aerological Division, D. M. Little, in charge]

By L. T. SAMUELS

Free-air temperatures during September averaged lowest over the northwestern section of the country and highest over southern California. (See table 1.) Departures from normal, at those stations with sufficiently long records, were small, and were negative at the lower levels and positive at the upper levels.

Free-air relative humidities averaged lowest over the middle and southern Pacific coast and highest over the

middle Atlantic coast, the difference being about 30 percent.

Resultant free-air wind directions over the eastern part of the country contained a greater southerly component than normal. (See table 2.) In most cases the resultant velocities were below normal in this region. Elsewhere resultant directions were close to normal, and velocities generally above normal.